

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for converting an input image having a first format to an output image having a second stereoscopic format, wherein the input image and the output image are each defined by a plurality of pixels, comprising:

receiving the input image having the first format at a format converter configured to receive input images in multiple formats and convert input images in different formats into images having stereoscopic formats;

converting each pixel of the input image to a corresponding pixel for the output image in accord with a map setting forth a predefined relationship between the first format and the second stereoscopic format, thereby creating the output image;

formatting the output image; and

displaying the formatted output image;

~~wherein a stereoscopic format is an assignment of pixels to respective left and right images, thus making the left and right images available at a display screen, to the eyes of an observer, as an image with binocular stereopsis.~~

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the converting step includes creating the map as a matrix that sets forth predefined relationships between one type of format as an input image and another type of stereoscopic format as an output image.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the converting step comprises the sequential steps:

converting the color space of the input image;

scaling the input image;

creating additional views as needed;

swapping views;

preparing a presentation of the output image for a particular format type;

centering the presentation;

formatting the presentation thereby creating a formatted output image; and

displaying the formatted output image.

4. (original) The method of claim 3, further comprising inverting the input image after the scaling step and before the creating step.

5. (original) The method of claim 3, further comprising aligning the views after the creating step and before the swapping step.

6. (original) The method of claim 3, further comprising arranging a predefined view wherein a single frame contains nine views, then interzipping the views, after the swapping step and before the preparing step.

7. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the input image is a planar image, further comprising creating a stereo image pair from the planar image.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the creating step comprises:

scaling the planar image by a fixed percentage to create a scaled image;

copying the scaled image to create a complimentary image;

shifting the complimentary image by a smaller percentage of the fixed percentage;

extracting a centered image from the scaled image; and

extracting a centered image from the shifted complimentary image.

9. (canceled)

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the smaller percentage is half.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the creating step comprises:

scaling the planar image by a fixed percentage to create a scaled image;

copying the scaled image to create a complimentary image;

skewing the complimentary image;

extracting a centered image from the scaled image; and

extracting a centered image from the shifted complimentary image.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the complimentary image is skewed by approximately half.

13. (currently amended) A device for converting an input image having a first format to an output image having a second stereoscopic format, wherein the input image and the output image are each defined by a plurality of pixels, comprising a software-enabled matrix that sets forth predefined relationships between one format for image input and a different format for image output, wherein the different format is a stereoscopic format, and a processor configured to receive images in multiple formats and convert images received in multiple formats into images in stereoscopic format and further configured to identify the first format of the input image and convert the input image using the software-enabled matrix to an output image having the second stereoscopic format.

14. (previously presented) A device according to claim 13, wherein the software-enabled matrix contains for each type of image format a pre-defined correspondence between a pixel from the input image and a pixel for the output image.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first format is planar.

16. (currently amended) A method for converting an input image in a first stereoscopic format to an output image having a second stereoscopic format, comprising:

receiving the input image in the first stereoscopic format at a multiple format image converter configured to receive input images in different stereoscopic formats and convert input images in various stereoscopic formats into images having different stereoscopic formats; and

converting each pixel of the input image to a corresponding pixel for the output image in accord with a map setting forth a predefined relationship between the first stereoscopic format and the second stereoscopic format, thereby creating the output image.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein converting comprises creating the map as a matrix that sets forth predefined relationships between one type of stereoscopic format as an input image and another type of stereoscopic format as an output image.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein converting comprises:

converting the color space of the input image;

scaling the input image;

creating additional views as needed;

swapping views;

preparing a presentation of the output image for a particular format type;

centering the presentation;

formatting the presentation thereby creating a formatted output image; and

displaying the formatted output image.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising inverting the input image after scaling and before creating.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising aligning the views after creating and before swapping.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising arranging a predefined view wherein a single frame contains nine views, then interzipping the nine views, after swapping and before preparing.